



AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

Of Jefferson County

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Need Help with your Medicare Costs?

April 2018 Press Release -submitted by Alyssa Kulpa, Elder Benefit Specialist

Adapted from an Article by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

If you have Medicare and you're facing challenges with paying for health care, you may be eligible for programs that can help you save money on medical and drug costs.

People with limited income and resources may qualify for Medicaid—a joint federal and state program that helps with medical costs.

Even if you don't qualify for Medicaid, Medicare Savings Programs may be able to help you pay your Medicare premiums and other costs. If your income is \$1,366 or less for an individual, or \$1,852 for a couple, and your resources are at or below \$7,560 for an individual or \$11,340 for a couple, you may already be eligible for one of these programs.

If you qualify for Medicaid or one of the Medicare Savings Programs, you'll automatically get Extra Help paying for your prescription drugs. Extra Help is a Medicare program that helps people with limited income and resources pay Medicare prescription drug costs, like premiums, deductibles and coinsurance.

If you don't automatically qualify for Extra Help, you may still be eligible if your income is \$1,518 or less for an individual, or \$2,058 for a couple, and your resources are at or below \$12,600 for an individual and \$25,150 for a couple. You can apply online for Extra Help with Social Security Administration at www.ssa.gov or by calling: **1-800-772-1213** (TTY **1-800-325-0778**).

Another program that can help with your prescription drug costs is SeniorCare, Wisconsin's prescription drug assistance program. This program is available to Wisconsin residents who are 65 and over and are a U.S. citizen or have qualifying immigrant status. Your annual income determines your level of coverage in this program. For more information or to access an application online, go to: www.dhs.Wisconsin.gov/seniorcare or call: **1-800-657-2038**.

It's important to call or fill out an application if you think you could qualify for savings, even if your income or resources are higher than the amounts listed above. These amounts change yearly, and you may be eligible for another savings program depending on your situation.

If you have questions on this topic or other benefit related issues, for Jefferson County residents age 60 or over may contact the Elder Benefit Specialist at the Aging and Disability Resource Center 920-674-8734.